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on the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Thirty-ninth session
Geneva
4-22 March 1991

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The thirty-ninth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 4 to 22 March 1991. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 4 March 1991.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Committee, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4, which contain the tentative timetable for consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (General Assembly resolution 45/85).

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

7. Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Under rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and, as appropriate, may add, defer or delete items.

2. Action by the General Assemby at its forty-fifth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the provisional agenda of the Committee's spring session.

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the thirty-eighth session, was submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. The report was considered by the Third Committee jointly with a number of other items at

its 4th to 10th, 18th, 28th, 29th and 31st meetings, held respectively on 10, 11, 15, 16 and 24 October and 1, 2 and 5 November 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.4-10).

On the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted, on 14 December 1990, the following resolution:

45/88 Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

During the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, this item was considered by the Third Committee jointly with a number of other items at its 35th to 42nd, 49th, 51st, 55th, 57th, 59th, 61st and 62nd meetings, held respectively on 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 21, 23 and 28 to 30 November, and 3 to 4 December 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.35-42).

On the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted, on 14 December 1990, resolution 45/85, entitled "Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights", by which it decided, inter alia, to endorse the recommendations of the meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies aimed at streamlining, rationalizing and otherwise improving reporting procedures, as well as the continuing efforts in this connection by the treaty bodies and the Secretary-General within their respective spheres of competence.

For its consideration of item 2 (a) and (b) of the provisional agenda, the Committee will have before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (A/45/402);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/45/579);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the developments relevant to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights (A/45/593);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report of the third meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/135 of 15 December 1989 (A/45/636);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on financing and staffing resources for the operations of treaty bodies (A/45/707);

(f) Relevant summary records of the Third Committee (A/C.3/45/SRs 4-10 and SRs 35 to 42);

(g) Reports of the Third Committee (A/45/745 and A/45/747);

(h) General Assembly resolutions 45/85, 45/88 and 45/89.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its thirty-ninth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/212). As may be noted from part A of that document, the Committee will have before it at its present session 25 reports received from 15 States parties which are pending consideration by the Committee under article 9 of the Convention. In addition, as of this date, 281 reports from 115 States parties are overdue and have not yet been received.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

The following timetable for consideration of reports submitted by States parties at the thirty-ninth session has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its thirty-eighth session.

In pursuance of the established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee, as follows:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Tuesday, 5 March 1991

BARBADOS	Seventh periodic report due in 1985 (CERD/C/131/Add.13)
IRAQ	Ninth periodic report due in 1987 (CERD/C/159/Add.2) Tenth periodic report due in 1989 (CERD/C/185/Add.2).
MALTA	Eighth and ninth periodic reports due in 1986 and 1988 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/171/Add.2)

Wednesday, 6 March 1991

ARGENTINA	Tenth periodic report due in 1988 (CERD/C/172/Add.18)
YEMEN	Seventh and eighth periodic reports due in 1985 and 1987 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/158/Add.10)

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC	Tenth periodic report due in 1988 (CERD/C/172/Add.14)

Thursday, 7 March 1991

BURUNDI	Sixth periodic report due in 1988 (CERD/C/168/Add.1)
CUBA	Ninth periodic report due in 1989 (CERD/C/184/Add.3)
PORTUGAL	Third and fourth periodic reports due in 1987 and 1989 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/179/Add.2)

Friday, 8 March 1991

URUGUAY	Eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports due in 1984, 1986, 1988 and 1990 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/197/Add.3)

Tuesday, 12 March 1991

CANADA	Ninth periodic report due in 1987 (CERD/C/159/Add.3) Tenth periodic report due in 1989 (CERD/C/185/Add.3)

Wednesday, 13 March 1991

UNITED KINGDOM	Tenth periodic report due in 1988 (CERD/C/172/Add.11 and Add.16) Eleventh periodic report due in 1990 (CERD/C/197/Add.2)
SWEDEN	Tenth periodic report due in 1991 (CERD/C/209/Add.1)

5. Consideraton of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

6. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/213) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories which may be transmitted to the Committee by the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

7. Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session), in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda throughout the Second Decade and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade.

For its consideration of this item at its thirty-ninth session, the Committee will have before it the following documents:

(a) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: report of the Secretary-General (A/45/443);

(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: note by the Secretary-General (A/45/525);

(c) General Assembly resolution 45/105 of 14 December 1990: Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.